



Ontario Institute for Education Leadership

Ontario Leaders Collaborating

for Student Achievement, Equity and Well-being

STRENGTHENING EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AWARENESS

Grouping Racialized Students Together

You are contacted in September by an irate parent who states that the elementary school that her grade four daughter attends is racist. When you ask the parent to describe what the school is doing that makes her feel this way, the parent shares that every year, all of the racialized students for each grade are put into the same class and her daughter has been with the same students since kindergarten. The parent states that she wants her daughter to expand her circle of friends and comments that the non-racialized students would benefit from getting to know the racialized students as well. She wants her daughter to be moved to a new class right away and she wants this practice changed.

When you follow up with the school, you learn that most of the racialized students are grouped together so that English Language support can be maximized. In fact, this is a practice that most schools in your District use.

REFLECTIVE QUESTIONS:

1. What concerns and questions do you have after learning about this support model for English Language Learners at this and other schools?

2. How will you frame your follow up conversation with the parent?

3. What are your next steps and who needs to be included?
